



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 68

February Session, 2018

House Bill No. 5254

House of Representatives, March 28, 2018

The Committee on Human Services reported through REP. ABERCROMBIE of the 83rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING CHILD SUPPORT COLLECTION FEES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subdivision (3) of subsection (h) of section 17b-179 of the
2 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3 thereof (*Effective April 1, 2019*):

4 (3) The Office of Child Support Services shall also, in the case of an
5 individual who never received temporary assistance for needy families
6 and for whom the state has collected at least five hundred fifty dollars
7 of support in a one-year period, impose an annual fee of [twenty-five]
8 thirty-five dollars for each case in which services are furnished. The
9 annual fee shall be (A) retained by the state from the support collected
10 on behalf of the individual, but not from the first five hundred fifty
11 dollars collected, (B) paid by the individual applying for the services,
12 (C) recovered from the noncustodial parent, or (D) paid by the state.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>April 1, 2019</i>	17b-179(h)(3)
-----------	----------------------	---------------

HS*Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None***Explanation***

The bill does not result in a fiscal impact to the state as it pertains to an annual fee that is electronically deducted from custodial parents and paid to the federal government.

The Out Years***State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 5254*****AN ACT CONCERNING CHILD SUPPORT COLLECTION FEES.*****SUMMARY**

This bill raises the annual fee for child support services for individuals who do not receive certain types of public assistance from \$25 to \$35 and the threshold for imposing the annual fee from \$500 to \$550 in child support in one year.

By law, the Department of Social Services' Office of Child Support Services must provide child support services (e.g., establishing paternity, locating non-custodial parents, and collecting child support) to recipients of TFA, Medicaid, and foster care. By law, the office must also provide services to those who do not receive such assistance and, for these individuals, charge an application fee and assess costs incurred. For cases where the individual has never received TFA and the state has collected at least \$500 of support on the individual's behalf in one year, current law also requires the office to impose an annual fee of \$25 for each case in which it provides such services.

The Office of Child Support Services is the state's IV-D agency under the federal Social Security Act and these increases conform to a requirement in federal law (P.L. 115-123, see BACKGROUND).

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 1, 2019

BACKGROUND***Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-123)***

Under federal law, Title IV-D agencies provide child support services to families who receive cash and other types of public assistance. Title IV-D agencies may provide child support services to families not receiving any assistance, but such families must pay

certain fees unless the state opts to pay the federal portion of the fee out of state funds. Federal legislation passed in 2018 increases the (1) annual user fee from \$25 to \$35 and (2) minimum amount of child support collected in order for the fee to be assessed from \$500 to \$550 (P.L. 115-123 (§ 53117)).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 18 Nay 0 (03/16/2018)